

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for feeding packages from a packaging machine, comprising a first, a second, a third and a fourth package driver for transporting packages in a transportation direction from an infeed station of the device arranged to receive packages from said packaging machine to an outfeed station of the device, said drivers being arranged in pairs, so that the first and third drivers and the second and fourth drivers, respectively, are arranged diametrically and fixed in relation to each other about a common centre axis, said pairs of drivers being rotatable about the centre axis independently from each other.
2. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein one driver in one pair is arranged to engage the packages from behind in the transportation direction and one driver in the other pair is arranged to engage the packages from the front in the transportation direction.
3. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the drivers are arranged to rotate alternately in a first and second direction about the centre axis, the transportation direction being in the first direction.
4. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the pair comprising the first and third drivers and the pair comprising the second and fourth

drivers, respectively, after each transportation of packages to the outfeed station are arranged to rotate in opposite directions.

5. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the first and third drivers are arranged to rotate in the first direction after every second transportation of packages to the outfeed station and to rotate in the second direction after every second transportation of packages to the outfeed station.

6. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the driver which engages the packages from behind, after transportation of the packages to the outfeed station is arranged to rotate in the second direction to enable engagement with subsequent packages at the infeed station from the front, and wherein the driver which engages the packages from the front, after transportation of the packages to the outfeed station is arranged to rotate in the first direction to enable engagement of the other driver in the same pair with the subsequent packages at the infeed station from behind.

7. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the drivers are arranged to transfer the packages to a conveyor belt at the outfeed station the conveyor belt moving at a conveyor belt speed, the drivers being arranged to deliver the packages at a speed essentially equal to the conveyor belt speed.

8. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising turning means for moving and turning packages leaving the packaging machine

upside down, placing the packages turned the right way round at the infeed station of the device.

9. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transportation of the packages occurs along part of a circle having a radius essentially equal to the radius of curvature of the rotation of the drivers.

10. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the radius of curvature of the rotation of the drivers is essentially equal to a radius of curvature of a path of movement of packages leaving the packaging machine.

11. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the drivers are arranged to transport one package at a time from the infeed station to the outfeed station.

12. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the drivers are arranged to transport two or more packages at a time from the infeed station to the outfeed station.

13. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the drivers are arranged to push together said two or more packages leaving the packaging machine with a distance between them, by rotating the drivers engaging the packages at the infeed station relatively towards each other before transporting the packages to the outfeed station.

14. (Previously Presented) A method of feeding packages from a packaging machine, comprising:

receiving at an infeed station adjacent to the packaging machine a first set of at least one package between a first and a second package driver, the first driver being arranged in a pair with a third driver and the second driver being arranged in a pair with a fourth driver, the first and third drivers and the second and fourth drivers respectively being arranged diametrically in relation to each other around a common centre axis, said drivers being rotatable about the centre axis,

transporting said at least one package by rotation of the drivers in a transportation direction about the centre axis to an outfeed station, the first driver moving behind and the second driver moving in front of said at least one package, and

when said at least one package has reached the outfeed station, returning the first driver to the infeed station and advancing the second driver by rotation about the centre axis so that the fourth driver advances to the infeed station, the first and fourth drivers being ready to receive a second set of at least one package.

15. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the packages are transferred to a conveyor belt at the outfeed station, the conveyor belt moving at a conveyor belt speed, the packages being transported from the infeed station to the outfeed station at a speed essentially equal to the conveyor belt speed.

16. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the packages are picked upside down from the packaging machine and turned and placed the right way round at the infeed station.

17. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 14, wherein one package at a time is fed from the packaging machine.

18. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 14, wherein two or more packages at a time are fed from the packaging machine.

19. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein said two or more packages are received at the infeed station at a distance from each other, pushed together by means of rotating the drivers receiving the packages relatively towards each other, and transported to the outfeed station in abutment with each other.